

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-08 FCC-01
INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01
ACDA-07 IO-13 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /095 W
-----038633 151325Z /46

R 151258Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0645
USMISSION USBERLIN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 13264

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, ETEL, BQG
SUBJECT: COORDINATION OF US TELEVISION FREQUENCY
IN BERLIN

REFS: (A) STATE 80985
(B) BONN 4898 AND PREVIOUS

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE FRG BONN GROUP REP HAS PROVIDED
ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION CONCERNING FREQUENCY
COORDINATION PROBLEMS IN BERLIN STEMMING FROM THE
GDR'S ATTEMPTS TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE ALLIES ON A
MATTER FOR WHICH WE HAVE DELEGATED RESPONSIBILITY TO
THE FRG. WITH RESPECT TO THE AMERICAN MILITARY TV
TRANSMITTER CHANNEL 9 AT TEMPELHOF, THE FRG HAS
FOUND THAT THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION DOES NOT REQUIRE
THAT THAT CHANNEL BE COORDINATED WITH THE GDR SINCE
CHANNEL 9 WAS IN EXISTENCE PRIOR TO GDR ACCESSION TO
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THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION. THE FRG PROPOSES TO SEND
A LETTER TO THIS EFFECT TO THE RESPONSIBLE GDR AUTHORI-
TIES. ACTION REQUESTED: USBER'S VIEWS AND DEPARTMENT'S
APPROVAL OF TEXT AND OF TRANSMISSION OF LETTER.
END SUMMARY

1. THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THE GDR ATTEMPTS TO

DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE US, RATHER THAN WITH THE FRG, REGARDING US MILITARY TV TRANSMITTER (CHANNEL 9) AT TEMPELHOF AIRPORT IN WEST BERLIN (REFTELS). THERE HAS BEEN SOME QUESTION AS TO WHY THE US STATION WAS NOT REGISTERED WITH THE IFRB IN GENEVA. FRG BONN GROUP REP (VON ARNIM) HAS CONDUCTED EXTENSIVE RESEARCH ON THE SUBJECT AND HAS INFORMED US THAT, UNDER THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION, THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT TO REGISTER THE TRANSMITTER FOR COORDINATION PURPOSES WITH THE GDR SINCE THE TRANSMITTER WAS ALREADY IN OPERATION PRIOR TO THE ACCESSION OF THE GDR TO THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION. THE FRG PROPOSES TO HAVE THE FEDERAL POST MINISTRY (WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COORDINATION OF ALL WEST BERLIN TRANSMITTERS, INCLUDING ALLIED ONES) SEND A LETTER, AN INFORMAL TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS, TO THE GDR.

2. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF DRAFT LETTER:

-- WITH REGARD TO YOUR COMMUNICATION 5161-1/1 NR. 82 OF FEBRUARY 23, 1977, TO THE LANDESPSTDIREKTION BERLIN, WHICH HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO ME AS THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY, I WISH TO INFORM YOU OF THE FOLLOWING:

-- SINCE THE AMERICAN MILITARY ADMINISTRATION'S TELEVISION TRANSMITTER CHANNEL 9 HAS BEEN IN OPERATION
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SINCE 1967 AND SINCE THE GDR FIRST BECAME PARTY TO THE REGIONAL AGREEMENT FOR THE EUROPEAN BROADCASTING ZONE (STOCKHOLM 1961) IN 1974, A COORDINATION OF THIS TRANSMITTER WITH THE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE GDR

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 13264

IS NOT NECESSARY (ARTICLE 11 OF THE AGREEMENT). THE FACT THAT THIS TRANSMITTER IS NOT REGISTERED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FREQUENCY REGISTRATION BOARD IS, TO THAT EXTENT, OF NO IMPORTANCE. THERE IS NO BASIS IN THE STOCKHOLM AGREEMENT FOR A POST FACTO DEMAND FOR COORDINATION BUT RATHER THE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE GDR IS, ACCORDING TO THIS AGREEMENT OBLIGATED TO COORDINATE ITS PLANNED TELEVISION TRANSMITTER EBERSWALDE (CHANNEL 9).

-- AS I HAVE EXPLAINED IN MY COMMUNICATION OF OCTOBER 13, 1976, THE USE OF CHANNEL 9 FOR THE TELEVISION TRANSMITTER EBERSWALDE CAN BE AGREED TO ONLY UNDER THE CONDITIONS STIPULATED IN THAT COMMUNICATION.

COMMENT: WE CANNOT OF COURSE SPEAK AUTHORITY.
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TATIVELY REGARDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE STOCKHOLM AGREEMENT BUT, SINCE WE HAVE DELEGATED TO THE FRG THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING ALLIED TRANSMITTERS IN BERLIN, ASSUME THAT THE FRG IS CORRECT IN ITS APPROACH.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE USBER'S VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION AND, UNLESS USBER PERCEIVES AN OBJECTION, THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL OF TEXT AND OF TRANSMISSION OF LETTER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, TELEVISION SYSTEMS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN13264
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770293-0972
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770863/aaaacatp.tel
Line Count: 166
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8322f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 80985, 77 BONN 4898
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1605913
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COORDINATION OF US TELEVISION FREQUENCY IN BERLIN
TAGS: PGOV, ETEL, GC, GE, BQG
To: STATE USBERLIN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8322f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009